Department of Economic and Community Development



DECD and CERC Embarking on New Outreach Initiative to In-State Businesses

Regional Forums to Highlight Wide Array of Resources Available

(Hartford, CT) The Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD) and the Connecticut Economic Resource Center, Inc. (CERC) will be visiting all regions of the state in March and April to raise awareness about the multitude of resources available to help businesses thrive in Connecticut. The first forum will take place Friday in New Haven.

"Connecticut's economic development 'toolbox' includes a wide array of programs to help businesses compete and grow. These include financing and job training programs, help with developing business plans, site selection services, connecting companies with technical experts, permit assistance and many others. These forums provide companies, developers, chamber associates, economic development professionals and others the opportunity to learn more about the variety of services we have to offer and interact with key members of our business development team," said Catherine Smith, commissioner of DECD.

CERC, a nonprofit corporation that provides economic development services, will present an overview of new business and municipal resources for economic growth.

"Through our collaboration with DECD, CERC helps provide business with information and answers that they need to be successful in Connecticut," said Robert Santy, President and CEO of CERC. "And we assist municipalities with getting the resources they need to grow their local economy and businesses."

These forums will also feature DECD's new deputy commissioner Bart Kollen, who joined the department in February.

Friday, March 11, 8:00-9:30 a.m.

Frontier Communications, 310 Orange Street, New Haven

https://secure2.chambermaster.com/directory/jsp/events/dlg/Public AddReg.jsp?ccid=1209&eventid=5484

Monday, March 14, 9:15-10:45 a.m.

Radisson, 100 Berlin Rd, Cromwell

http://business.middlesexchamber.com/events/details/regional-economic-development-workshop-3770

Wednesday, March 16, 1:00-2:30 p.m.

Goodwin College Auditorium, 1 Riverside Drive, East Hartford

 $\frac{http://metrohartfordalliancectassoc.weblinkconnect.com/events/Regional-Economic-Development-Forum-\\ \underline{2364/details}$

Wednesday, March 16, 4:00-5:30 p.m.

Windham Club, 184 Club Rd, North Windham

http://www.windhamchamber.com/ct-economic-resource-center-forum/

Monday, March 21, 9:30-11:00 a.m.

Northwest CT Chamber of Commerce, 333 Kennedy Drive, Torrington

http://nwctchamberofcommerce.org/default.asp

Tuesday, March 22, 9:00-10:30 a.m.

Town of Vernon, 14 Park Place, Rockville

http://www.tollandcountychamber.org/

Monday, March 28, 8:30-10:00 a.m.

Cartus, 46 Apple Ridge Road, Danbury

http://www.danburychamber.com/

Monday, March 28, 11:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Margret E. Morton Government Center, 999 Broad Street, Bridgeport

http://web.brbc.org/events

Wednesday, March 30, 8:30-10:00 a.m.

Groton Municipal Building (auditorium), 2915 Meridian Street, Groton

https://chamberect.chambermaster.com/eventregistration/register/8690

Friday, April 1, 12:00-1:30 p.m.

Landmark Square Conference Center, 4 Landmark Square, Stamford

http://www.businessfairfield.com/event/update-with-decd-commissioner-smith/

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